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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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06/14/2001

Paolo Rolandi

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EXAMINER

WENDLER, ERIC J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2824

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

11/13/2009

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

creganoa@addmg.com

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/881,581	Applicant(s) ROLANDI, PAOLO	
	Examiner ERIC WENDLER	Art Unit 2824	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 6/29/09.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 50,51,53-62 and 96-102 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 96-102 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 50-51, 53-60 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 61 and 62 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 June 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This office action is responsive to the following communication: the Amendment after Non-Final Rejection filed on June 29, 2009.

Claims 50-51, 53-62, 96-102, are pending in the present application. Claims 50, 96, are independent claims.

Priority

Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 50-51, 54, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by the US Patent to Nazari (5455785).

Regarding claims 50-51, Nazari teaches a memory card comprising a casing 8, 18, 210, an integrated circuit 2 encapsulated within said casing for storing data, comprising a non-volatile electrically programmable memory 4, 218, that is erasable by exposure to ultraviolet radiation 202 for permitting a non-electrical erasure of stored data, said casing having an aperture 10, 214, aligned with the memory for permitting selective exposure to the radiation to thereby erase the stored data (column 2, lines 22-34, 44-58; column 4, lines 2-44).

Regarding claim 54, Nazari teaches that the casing comprises a reversible closing device 12, 212, for closing the aperture for protecting the memory from undesired radiation.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 53 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the US Patent to Nazari (5455785) in view of the US Patent to Foerstel et al. (5567177).

Regarding claim 53, Nazari teaches all the claimed elements as discussed above but is silent as to whether the memory card comprises polyaniline. Foerstal et al. teach that the memory card can be made out of polymers or other suitable materials (column 5, lines 46-57). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Foerstal et al. with the memory card of Nazari because polyaniline is a common polymer that would be suitable for use in the protection of the EPROM in the memory card of Nazari.

Claim 55 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the US Patent to Nazari (5455785) in view of the US Patent to Maehara (5255236).

Regarding claim 55, Nazari teaches all the claimed elements as discussed above but is silent as to whether the reversible closing device could be an adhesive element that is removable with respect to the aperture. Maehara teaches a mask seal 3 for

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preventing UV light transmission that can be adhered to a ROM over an aperture (column 1, lines 35-39). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to try adhesive elements to cover the aperture as an alternative to the sliding window shield of Nazari because both are methods of covering the aperture with a removable shield to prevent erasure.

Claims 56-60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the US Patent to Nazari (5455785) in view of the US Patent to Ishii et al. (5867428).

Regarding claims 56-57, Nazari teaches all the claimed elements as discussed above but is silent as to a memory control circuit generating programming and reading signals based upon a command signal to input/output data to and from the memory, and an additional memory for storing microinstructions for controlling the memory and a decoder for converting the command signal to a selection signal for selecting at least microinstruction. Ishii et al. teach a memory control circuit for receiving programming and reading signals through input/output buffer, and for receiving control signals through control signal buffer 24, an additional memory for storing microinstructions 22 and a decoder 21 connected to the additional memory for converting the command signal to a selection signal for selecting a microinstruction (Fig. 1; column 6, lines 42-56). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the memory card of Nazari as the non-volatile memory mentioned in Ishii et al. with the control circuitry of Ishii et al. to allow for signals and data to be input and output from the memory.

Regarding claims 58-60, Nazari teaches all the claimed elements as discussed above but is silent as to first and second paths with serial/parallel conversions circuits connecting the command signal and the data and address signals to the memory. Ishii et al. teach serially transferring command signals through control signal buffer 24 and data and address signals through I/O buffer 23 through first and second paths with serial/parallel conversion circuits 12, 14, 21, for conversion of the data and address signals and command signals, respectively. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the memory card of Nazari as the non-volatile memory mentioned in Ishii et al. with the control circuitry of Ishii et al. to allow for signals and data to be input and output from the memory.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 61-62 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 96-102 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: regarding claims 61, 96, the prior art fails to teach or suggest in combination a bypass circuit selectively activated and connected between a first serial/parallel conversion circuit and an additional memory for bypassing the decoder to allow for the microinstructions to be supplied directly to the memory. Claims 62, 97-102, are dependent on claim 61 and therefore also contain allowable subject matter.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ERIC WENDLER whose telephone number is (571)272-5063. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Elms can be reached on 571-272-1869. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

11/6/09

/ERIC WENDLER/
Examiner, Art Unit 2824

/VanThu Nguyen/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2824